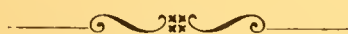


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Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

(Dr. J. J. MURPHY, M.B.)

FOR THE

Year ending Dec. 31st, 1946.

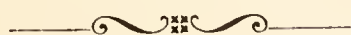
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Annual Report

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Medical Officer of Health

(Dr. J. J. MURPHY, M.B.)

FOR THE

Year ending Dec. 31st, 1946.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Report for the year ending December 31st, 1946.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	2,795
Population (Registrar General's estimate)	8,570
Average number of persons per acre	3.066
Number of inhabited houses	3,189
Average of inhabited houses per acre	1.140
Average number of persons per house	2.687
Rateable Value	£36,667
Sum represented by penny rate	£143

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The area is made up of the old Urban Districts of Queensbury and Shelf, which were amalgamated in 1937. Queensbury lies across the Bradford-Halifax Road (A.647), Shelf across Bradford-Manchester Road (A.641), the two areas being joined by the Brighouse-Keighley Road (A.644).

The combined area is bounded on the north and east by Bradford County Borough, on the west and part of the south by Halifax County Borough, the remaining southern boundary meeting the Borough of Brighouse.

The area is mainly high and exposed, the northern tip of the district being actually named "Mountain" as it is at an altitude of some 1,200 feet above sea level. The average altitude of Queensbury is about 1,100 feet, while that of Shelf is about 850 feet. The village of Queensbury is situated on a high eminence overlooking Bradford and Halifax about midway between the two towns with extensive views in all directions, especially from Mountain. From this eminence Penyghent, Ingleborough and Wharfedale, forty miles away, are clearly seen in the north-west. There is probably a no more populous place at a greater elevation in England than Queensbury.

Shelf is rather less hilly, with an area of 1,303 acres and is divided into two distinct watersheds. The first includes Shelf village, Shelf Moor, and drains naturally into the stream named Woodfall Beck. The other water shed includes the hamlet of Stone Chair, Lower Shelf, and Lumb Brook, and drains naturally down to Lumb Brook, the land falling regularly from N.W. to S.E.

The exposure rating of this area by the Institute of Heating and Ventilating Engineers is "Severe," the number of degree days being about 5,500 for an internal temperature of 65°F. and external temperature of 36°F.

Rainfall is about 50 ins.

Geologically, the district has little of importance. A narrow strip of the millstone-grit which forms the main mass of the Pennine Chain crosses on the western boundary of Queensbury, the rest of the area being covered by sandstone except for an area stretching from the neck where the two areas were joined to a line running almost east-west from Stone Chair to Green Lane.

Apart from the western strip of millstone-grit already mentioned, the area lies on the Lower Coal Measure which forms the West Riding Coal-field. The Coal Measure, consisting of shales, sandstone, coal and underclays, occurs in a basinlike fold, with its axis running north-north-west to south-south-east, the whole basin having an eastward tilt. Thus the approach to the northern and western edges of the basin is marked by one seam after another, curving up to the surface and ending, until a stage is reached at which mining is uneconomical. It is on this western edge

that the district lies, and there are at present no mines in operation in the area although one mine was worked for some years in Queensbury and there are some old "bell pits" in a restricted area at Shelf. There is practically no risk of subsidence from mining operations and little loss of amenity by reason of spoil heaps.

By far the greater loss of amenity has been caused by the working of the sandstone mentioned above, at a time when rapid but undirected growth was proceeding all over the area. From the haphazard growth of the nineteenth century has been received a legacy of narrow streets, back-to-back houses, badly placed works and ruined amenities which provides all the worst and most costly problems of modern town planning.

A certain amount of clay mining is taking place, but this, fortunately, does not impair the general amenities of the area.

Probably due to the poor soil yielded by the Coal Measures and the climatic features referred to, agriculture plays little part in the life of the district, dairy farming and stock raising being the principal occupations of the farming community.

As might be expected from the situation of the district, the textile industry is the most important one in the area. Two centuries ago nearly every house had its own loom and spinning wheel, and today most families in the area have some connection with the trade. Probably Black Dyke Mill, originally built in 1835, has been the greatest single factor promoting the growth of Queensbury. Three other mills are located in Shelf. In connection with amenities it is pleasing to note that electrification of at least one mill is in progress, a process which will no doubt reduce the amount of smoke emitted from the mill.

There are two parks in Queensbury, totalling 9.00 acres, 6.00 acres of which are for games only, a private golf course of 31.5 acres, three recreation grounds totalling 10 acres, and 7.20 acres of allotments.

There are no common lands in the area.

Just before the outbreak of war, Littlemoor Park, belonging to the Foster estate, was gifted to the Council, and is being developed as a public park. The area is 28 acres.

The figures given below, while taken from 1926 census, will not have changed greatly and will give a picture of the social character of the district.

Occupation.	Queensbury.	Shelf.
Agriculture	84	85
Mining and Quarrying	101	19
Making bricks, pottery and glass	25	4
Making paint, chemicals, etc.	2	6
Metal working	270	92
Electric fitters, etc.	11	5
Workers in skin and leather	13	6
Textile workers	1,494	583
Makers of textile articles of dress	78	29
Makers of food, drink, tobacco	62	12
Workers in wood	100	27
Paper workers, printers, etc.	9	3
Builders, bricklayers, painters, etc.	169	49
Workers in other materials	7	6
Transport	133	55
Administration and defence	23	7
Professions	56	29
Clerks, draughtsmen, etc.	91	32
Warehousemen	63	44
Stationary engine drivers	26	12
All other occupations	262	113
Total workers	3,256	1,316
Population	5,869	2,392

YEAR 1921.

	Number of persons working in district.	Residents working in district.	Non- resident workers.	Workers residing in district but working away.
Queensbury	3,993	2,875	72	1,118
Shelf	1,487	876	58.9	611
			28	41.1
				381
				440

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	78	78	156
Illegitimate	6	8	14
Grand Total :			168

Birth rate per thousand of estimated resident population is 19.6.

Still Births.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	—	3	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Grand Total :			3

The rate per thousand (Live and Still births) is 17.5.

Deaths.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
All causes	58	70	128

The Death rate per thousand of estimated resident population is 14.9.
No comparability factor is available this year.

Deaths from Maternal Causes.

				Deaths of Mothers in childbirth per 1,000 live and still births	
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Other causes	...	...	...	...	Nil.
				Total :	Nil.

Infant Mortality.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	5	4	9
Illegitimate	—	1	1
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	60
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live birth	...	...	58.4
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	71.4

MORTALITY IN SPECIAL CASES.

Diarrhœa.

Deaths in infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births Nil.

Deaths from Measles (all ages) per 1,000 estimated population

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) per 1,000 estimated population

Deaths from Diseases of the Heart and Circulation per 1,000 ... 6.42

Deaths from Cancer per 1,000 estimated population ... 2.45

CAUSES OF DEATH IN QUEENSBURY & SHELF DURING THE YEAR 1946.

TABLE 1.

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.
All causes	58	70
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid	—	—
2 Cerebrospinal Fever	—	1
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—
4 Whooping cough	—	—
5 Diphtheria	—	—
6 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2	1

7	Other forms of tuberculosis	...	...	...	—	—
8	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—
9	Influenza	...	...	...	—	—
10	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
11	Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis	...	...	...	—	—
12	Acute infantile encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—
13	Cancer of buccal cavity and œsophagos & arteries	...	...	...	1	3
14	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	4	3
15	Cancer of breast	...	...	...	—	2
16	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	3	5
17	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	—
18	Intracranial vascular lesion	...	...	...	7	10
19	Heart disease	...	...	...	23	29
21	Bronchitis	...	...	...	1	3
22	Pneumonia	...	...	...	2	3
23	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	2	—
24	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	—	—
25	Diarrhœa, under 2 years	...	...	...	—	—
26	Appendicitis	...	...	...	—	—
27	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	1	1
28	Nephritis	...	...	...	—	1
29	Puerperal and post abortion sepsis	...	...	...	—	—
30	Other maternal causes	...	...	...	—	—
31	Premature birth	...	...	...	2	1
32	Congenital malformation, birth inj., etc.	...	...	...	1	2
33	Suicide	...	...	...	—	—
34	Road traffic accidents	...	...	...	—	—
35	Other violent causes	...	...	...	3	1
36	All other causes	...	...	...	4	3
					58	70

TABLE II.

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1946.

(Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.)

Rates per 1,000 population :—

	Queensbury and Shelf.	England and Wales.	126 C.B.s and Great Towns including London.	148 smaller towns of Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931.	London Administrative County.	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts.
Live Births	19.6	19.1	22.2	21.3	21.5	19.5
Still Births	0.35	0.53	0.67	0.59	0.54	—
Deaths.						
All causes	14.9	11.5	12.7	11.7	12.7	12.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Influenza	0.00	0.15	0.13	0.14	0.12	—
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00

Rates per 1,000 live births :—

Deaths under 1 year of age	60	43	46	37	41	43
Deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis under 2 years of age	0.00	4.4	6.1	2.8	4.2	4.01

Rates per 1,000 population :—

Notifications						
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Paratyphoid „	1.05	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.06	—
Scarlet Fever	1.28	1.38	1.51	1.33	1.42	—
Whooping Cough	2.10	2.28	2.48	2.05	2.22	—
Diphtheria	0.13	0.28	0.32	0.31	0.24	—
Erysipelas	0.58	0.22	0.25	0.22	0.27	—
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	0.46	3.92	4.73	3.70	7.35	—
Pneumonia	0.46	0.89	1.02	0.74	0.75	—

Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

(a) Notifications

		8.50	10.35	7.63		
Puerperal Fever	0.00				1.62	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	5.81				9.68	—

(b) Maternal Mortality in England and Wales :—

No. 140	No. 141	No. 147	Nos. 142—6
Abortion with	Abortion without	Puerperal	148—50
Sepsis	Sepsis	Infections	Other
0 13	0.06	0.18	1.06

POPULATION VARIATIONS.

	Queensbury	Shelf	Total.
1901	6,416	2,500	8,916
1911	6,125	2,334	8,459
1921	5,869	2,392	8,261
1931	5,833	2,600	8,433
1941	...	...	8,729
1946	...	...	8,570

VITAL STATISTICS FROM 1937 OF COMBINED AREA.

	Population.	Births.	Birthrate.	Deaths.	Deathrate.
1937	8641	140	16.20	141	16.30
1938	8640	121	14.00	122	14.12
1939	8633	105	12.32	124	14.36
1940	8851	115	13.00	129	14.57
1941	8729	100	11.45	124	14.21
1942	8366	137	16.37	132	15.78
1943	8158	111	13.61	118	14.46
1944	8205	149	18.38	118	14.55
1945	8093	107	13.22	145	17.95
1946	8570	168	19.6	128	14.9

Apart from some cases of paratyphoid referred to lately there have been no cases of sickness or invalidity during the year which are noteworthy or warrant special comment. The whole of the district has been generally good and no evidence is available that such unemployment as exists in the area has exercised any effect on the health or physique of children or adults.

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the past year, and no comment is required. There have been no causes of sickness or invalidity of any special note in the area, and we have no evidence of any condition of occupation or environment in the area which has had or is having a prejudicial effect upon health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Public Health Officers.

Medical Officer of Health—Dr. J. J. Murphy (Part time.)
Sanitary Inspector, 1st Jan., 1946-31st March, 1946—H. Walmsley.
1st April, 1946-31st Dec., 1946—W. E. Shelley.

Laboratory Facilities.

No change has been made in the services provided under this head. The West Riding County Council provide full services at their County Laboratories.

Ambulance Facilities.

Cases of infectious diseases are removed to the Halifax Fever Hospital by their ambulances.

For non-infectious or accident cases use is made of the ambulances of St. John's, Bradford, and of the Halifax Corporation.

Nursing in the Home.

This is done by the District Nursing Association and there is no change since the last report.

Midwives Practising in the Area.

There is one midwife employed in the area by the West Riding County Council. There are no arrangements for the employment of, or subsidy to, midwives by the Local Authority.

Poor Law Medical Out-Relief.

This is administered by the Public Assistance Committee of the West Riding County Council.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Ante Natal Clinic These are provided by the West Riding County
Post Natal Clinic Council in both Queensbury and Shelf.

V.D. Clinics.

St. Luke's Hospital, Bradford.	Males : Monday & Sat., 9-30 a.m. Tuesday, 5-7 p.m. Females : Monday, 5-7 p.m. Friday : 10 a.m.
Royal Halifax Infirmary.	Males : Thursday, 6-8 p.m. Females : Tuesday, 3-30 - 4-30 p.m. 6-8 p.m.

Hospitals.

Fever.—The Isolation Hospital was closed 31st December, 1945, and cases of infectious disease are now treated by arrangement with Halifax Corporation in their Fever Hospital.

Smallpox.—Use is made of the Hospitals of Neighbouring Authorities and W.R.C.C.

Tuberculosis.—Patients suffering from Tuberculosis and contacts are under the care of the West Riding County Council. The Tuberculosis Dispensary for outpatients is at Greenups Terrace, Sowerby Bridge, where a West Riding T.B. Officer attends weekly to conduct examinations. Where hospital treatment is necessary arrangements are made for admission to Sanatoria under the County Council's control.

Maternity.—Use is made of the Hospitals of neighbouring Authorities, where the West Riding County Council maintain a certain number of beds.

General.—Other cases requiring general medical or surgical treatment whether as hospital out-patients or in-patients, have the choice of the hospitals in the neighbouring cities of Leeds and Bradford and the County Borough of Halifax.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

General.

Due to the altitude and hilly conditions, the prevalence of fog and dampness, and the severity of cold and frost, the diseases most prevalent in the area are :—

- (1) Rheumatism.
- (2) Affections of the heart and circulation.
- (3) Chest conditions.

The notifiable diseases most prevalent during 1946 were Scarlet Fever and Paratyphoid.

During my term of twenty-three years as Medical Officer of this district there have been various almost annual epidemics of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria; of the common ailments such as Measles, Whooping Cough and Chicken Pox; and of others including Smallpox and Paratyphoid. The cause of this has seemed to me to be attributable to the influx of Tees-side workers for the local factory, whereby diseases are brought into the district and spread.

Scarlet Fever.

I should like to draw your attention to the Modern conceptions about Scarlet Fever. Our bacteriologists have shown that Scarlet Fever is caused by organisms known as Streptococci—most frequently of the hæmolytic type. The group of hæmolytic streptococci seems to consist of from 27 to 30 races which are fixed and stable, and can be indentified as the cause of different clinical conditions such as Scarlet Fever, Tonsillitis, Erysipelas, Puerperal Fever, Septicæmia. Scarlet Fever is therefore not a specific disease like Cholera or Diphtheria, but is one manifestation of infection with hæmolytic streptococci. Types 1 to 4 seem to include the great majority of cases of Scarlet Fever. It does not appear that all types cause a rash and the "scarlet" feature is dependent on the bacterial strain and the susceptibility of the patient. In household infections of streptococcal sore throat the rash develops in a portion of cases only, and infectivity is identical, with or without a rash. It is a well-known fact that Tonsillitis may give rise to Scarlet Fever, and vice versa. To notify cases with a rash only gives an incorrect impression of the extent of the infection. This is the reason why, in spite of the measures adopted to control Scarlet Fever, it remains as prevalent as ever.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

This has continued throughout the year, and children and adults were immunized during 1946. Circulars are frequently forwarded to schools in the area and pamphlets distributed to parents and others giving details of the scheme.

Para-typhoid.

At the beginning of August we were involved in an epidemic of paratyphoid occurring throughout several neighbouring districts. The first case was diagnosed in this area, and prompt action taken to trace the origin of the epidemic*. Exhaustive enquiries were made, and samples taken, and investigations tended to point to the focus being in a neighbouring borough occurred in this area, all in children (*8 positive cases under 14 years of age), and this was eventually established to be so. No cases died, and there was no return cases.

**Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) and
Hospital Admissions during 1946.**

Disease.						Cases		
						Cases Notified	admitted to Hosp'l	Deaths
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	11	11	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
Enteric Fever (including paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	...	9	10	—
							1 negative	
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	5	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Other diseases notifiable generally	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Other diseases notifiable locally	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	18	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	4	—	—
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	...	...	7	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1946.

Age Periods.		New Cases.				Deaths.			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
5	...	—	—			—	—	—	—
10	...	—	—			—	—	—	—
15	...	—	—			—	—	—	—
20	...	—	2		NIL	—	1	—	—
35	...	—	—			—	—	—	—
25	...	—	—			—	—	—	—
45	...	1	—			—	—	—	—
55	...	—	—			2	—	—	—
65 and upwards	...	—	—			—	—	—	—
Totals		1	2			2	1	—	—

Death-rates per 1,000 estimated population.

		Q'bury. & Shelf.	England & Wales.	Aggregate West Riding Urban Dist.
Tuberculosis of				
Respiratory System	...	0.35	0.46	0.37
Other forms of Tuberculosis		—	0.08	0.07
Respiratory Diseases (excluding T.B. of Respiratory System)	...	1.28	No figures available	1.31

Annual Incidence of Various Infectious Diseases.

		Small- pox	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Enteric Fever	Ery- sipelas	Tuberculosis:			Pneu- monia
							Lungs	Other	Total	
1928	...	2	68	—	2	9	No figures			4
1930	...	8	59	17	2	—	3	—	3	9
1931	...	27	34	13	—	12	9	—	9	14
1932	...	—	24	2	—	7	3	2	5	12
1933	...	—	52	2	—	4	11	2	13	7
1934	...	—	34	10	—	1	6	2	8	6
1935	...	—	38	30	—	4	3	2	5	3
1936	...	—	91	14	—	3	6	3	9	8
1937	...	—	88	26	—	1	4	2	6	5
1938	...	—	85	25	—	5	—	—	—	5
1939	...	—	22	13	—	5	4	—	4	5

1940	...	—	9	8	—	5	2	1	3	5
1941	...	—	19	6	—	7	6	3	9	5
1942	...	—	102	6	—	13	6	—	6	22
1943	...	—	40	10	—	11	8	3	11	23
1944	...	—	15	8	—	8	2	—	2	7
1945	...	—	31	4	—	1	9	—	9	9
1946	...	—	11	2	9	5	3	—	3	4

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

Water Supply.

I am obliged to Mr. S. Drake, the Waterworks Engineer, for the information given below.

Water is supplied by Bradford Corporation and distributed by the Council.

There is a good supply to both districts. Queensbury is fed from Thornton Moor Reservoir into a service reservoir with a holding capacity of 1,000,000 gallons. Shelf is fed direct from the Bradford main. Also served from Thornton Moor. 3,037 houses, making a total of 8,100 people, are using Council water at an average of 23 gallons per head per day for domestic purposes.

Adequate sampling and control is exercised by the Bradford Corporation over the water supplied.

Samples taken during the year from the reservoir have been satisfactory.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Queensbury.

We have had very little trouble with the sewers being choked. No new sewer has been lain. We have had no trouble with the sewerage at the works. The sewage is treated by the system of Detritus Tanks, Precipitation Tanks, Percolating Filters, Sludge Beds and Humus Tanks. There is also some treated by the land treatment, ridge and furrow. The outfall works have been able to easily cope with the flow. Samples have been taken from time to time by the Rivers' Board Inspector but no complaint has been received as to the quality of the discharged effluent. As more house are built more sludge beds will be required.

Shelf.

There are two sewerage works here, Wood Fall and Lumb Brook. Wood Fall receives about two-thirds of the effluent and Lumb Brook, one-third. The Wood Fall works are by the system of Detritus Tanks, Precipitation Tanks, Percolating Filters and Humus Tanks. These works are rather overworked to get a good effluent, and some improvement is needed. At Lumb Brook the system is Detritus Tanks, Precipitation Tanks, Percolating Filters, but no Humus Tank. The flow to these works is not so great and the provision of a Humus Tank would greatly improve the effluent.

The Council have approved a Sewerage scheme for reconstruction of Wood Fall works and doing away with the Lumb Brook works. The Sewerage from these works will be then treated by Brighouse at an annual cost.

At the end of 1946 there were 252 houses not connected to a sewer.

FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION.

(.) MILK SUPPLY.

(1) Cowsheds.

Regular inspection was made of all dairies and cowsheds in the district during the year. We now have 49 dairy farms containing 80 registered cowsheds and housing approximately 600 dairy cattle.

There has been little cowshed reconstruction during the year, several alterations have been made at Ford Farm, and a new dairy constructed. A survey has been made of the alterations needed at Shibden Head Farm to bring it up to standard for Accredited Milk production.

(2) Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936.

Two additional farms were granted licenses to produce "Tuberculin Tested" milk during the year, and 3 "Accredited" licenses. We now have in the area—

3 "Tuberculin Tested" producers, and
11 "Accredited" producers.

One license to retail Pasturized milk is in force.

(3) Chemical Examination of Milk.

The work in this connection is administered by the County Council.

(4) Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

During the year 36 samples of milk were taken by the Sanitary Inspector for examination at the County Laboratories, Wakefield, in addition to samples being taken by County Council Inspectors at "Accredited" and "Tuberculin Tested" farms.

One sample was found to contain living tubercle bacilli and action on this area taken by the County Veterinary Department.

It is regretted that an increasing shortage of guinea-pigs makes it impossible for the County Laboratories to cope with the suggested three-monthly sampling of milk for tuberculosis.

There were no instances of disease attributable to milk during 1946.

(b) MEAT INSPECTION.

There are no Regional Slaughterhouses in the area; all meat supplies coming from Halifax. The work of meat inspection is confined mainly to the "Christmas pig." Some 60 pigs were inspected, and one only was condemned as unfit.

Other foods inspected and condemned were—

42 lbs. jam. Condemned for sale by retail, but salvaged for canteen use.

14 lbs. bacon.

10 tins milk.

HOUSING.

I have little to add to my previous observations on Housing. A good start has been made on the provision of new houses—a first batch of 65 were started during the year and it is hoped that more will quickly be built.

Towards the end of the year a survey was commenced, principally to obtain full information for the preparation of a Town Housing Scheme, but also to bring up to date the information possessed as to over-crowding, and to obtain a true picture of the sanitary amenities of houses in the district.

It is hoped that much valuable information will be elicited from this survey, which should be completed early in 1947.

The Council is a Member of the Upper Calder Joint Town Planning Committee, and although no Scheme is in force in the area, a start has been made on the preparation of such a scheme.

At the end of 1946 there were 3,189 houses in the district, nearly all of which are working class however.

The number of dwellings overcrowded is not known—the survey mentioned above will determine this.

A survey has been made of repairs needed to the Councils' houses, and most of the works required have been put in hand, and part completed. The extensiveness of these works is undoubtedly due to lack of maintenance during the war years, though partly aggravated by faults in construction.

Councils' Proposals for Housing.

The first post-war year's programme of housing is—

Queensbury. Moor Close Lane site	...	...	23 houses
Shelf. Burn Road site	...	...	34 "
Weslercroft Avenue site	...	...	8 "

Council Houses existing. December, 1946.

Queensbury.

		No. of Houses		Rents	
		Parlour	Non-Parlour	Parlour	Non-Parlour
Westfield Terrace	...	2	12	8/6	7/-
Russell Road	...	6	8	8/6	7/-
Russell Avenue	...	6	6	—	—
Russell Hall Lane	...	—	6	—	—
Old folks' bungalows—					
New Park Road	...	—	18	—	3/-
Albion Street	...	—	—	—	—

Shelf.

Burnley Hill Terrace	...	4	20	8/6	7/-
Old folks' bungalows—					
Burn Road	...	—	20	—	3/-
Totals		38	72		

There are no houses provided for Agricultural Workers.

HOUSING PROGRESS IN THE AREA SINCE 1919.

Year.	Houses built by private enterprise, including subsidy.		Houses built by Local Authority to let or for sale.	
	Queensbury.	Shelf.	Queensbury.	Shelf.
1919	—	—	—	—
1920	—	2	—	—
1921	—	1	12	—
1922	—	1	—	—
1923	—	4	—	—
1924	2	7	—	—
1925	2	9	—	2
1926	2	—	12	—
1927	3	—	24	—
1928	?	2	—	8
1929	—	—	—	—
1930	—	3	—	8
1931	—	—	—	—
1932	16	43	—	8
1933	45	47	—	4
1934	89	58	—	4
1935	45	19	—	6
1936	10	15	12	—
	Queensbury and Shelf.		Queensbury and Shelf.	
1937	21		6	
1938	33		—	
1939	9		24	
1940	—		20	
1941-44	—		—	
1945	—		—	
1946	6		—	

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

This Table is enclosed by request of the Minister of Labour and National Service to indicate to Medical Officers of Health the prescribed particulars which are required by Section 128 (3) to be furnished in their annual reports with respect to the matters under Part I and Part VIII of the Act which are administered by the District Council. It is not intended to supersede the fuller statement which is desirable in the text of the report.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1946 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF QUEENSBURY AND SHELF IN THE COUNTY OF YORK.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Inspections (4)	Number of Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	M/c line No. (7)
(1)						
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	5	8	—	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies						
(a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938† ...	2	—	—	—	—	2
(b) Others ...	3	56	63	6	—	3
(iii) Other Premises under the Act‡ (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	4	4	11	—	—	4
TOTAL ...		65	82	6	—	

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	M/c line No.
		Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	5	1	1	—	1	—	5
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	9	—	—	—	—	—	9
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	10	—	—	—	—	—	10
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)							
(a) insufficient ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	11	3	3	—	3	—	11
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework) ...	13	—	—	—	—	—	13
TOTAL ...	60	4	4	—	4	—	60

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Apart from minor cases of pollution no circumstances have arisen calling for special note. This matter continues to exercise the close attention of your officials as it has done in the past.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The position in this respect is still far from satisfactory as there are many privies and pail closets which could be converted to the water carriage system. It is to be hoped that it will not be long before circumstances permit the conversion, by grant, or otherwise of all conservancy arrangements, wherever sewer and water supply are available.

The table below sets out the position at the end of the year.

Accommodation 31st Dec. 1945		Alterations to December 31st, 1946					Total Est. Number
		Added by New Building	Privy to P.C.	By Conversion Privy to W.C.	Pail C. to W.C.	Closets demolished with Privies	
Privies ..	210	Nil	6	3	Nil	Nil	201
Pail Closets	46	Nil	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	52
W. Closets	2532	6	Nil	3	Nil	Nil	2541

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Towards the end of the year, in November, an altered system of refuse collection was begun. The man who previously emptied middens, with a horse and cart, was transferred to the team working with the refuse waggon. This augmented team then took over the emptying of middens, and the removal of all refuse in the area. The close of the year had not given sufficient time to properly judge results.

The refuse waggon is worn out and losing much time. It will be a great relief when the new waggon, now on order, arrives.

TIPS AND ASH COLLECTION.

We have in all three tips for the Queensbury Area, one at Littlemoor Quarry is used mostly. This tip is owned by the Council and will serve the district for a number of years.

In Shelf Area there is a tip rented by the Council on the Brighthouse and Denholme Road. The tips are in good condition, and no complaints have been received. Bins are collected by motor, which have done excellent work throughout the year. On the other days horses and carts are used for privy middens, at a total cost of £1,687.

SALVAGE.

The total collections for 1946 are given below, also the value of materials disposed of :

	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d
Paper ...	21	7	2	136	5	9
Scrap Iron ...	1	17	2	4	18	5
Rags ...		16	3	14	14	6
Bones ...		1	2		6	0
Brass, Copper & Aluminum		0	0	0	0	0
Bottles & Jars		742	doz.	32	3	1
Total ...				£188	7	9

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Smoke observations are taken at intervals of the main smoke producing premises in the area, representations have been made to the offenders, but it is difficult to see how, with the fuel being used at the time, control of the fire could be satisfactory.

SHOPS.

There are some 150 shops in the area. As yet a complete register and survey has not been made but this will be done as opportunity arises. In connection with shops selling meat, fish etc., we find that they are very well kept and in a satisfactory condition. We have no difficulty in this district with the exposure of meat to dust and contamination by means of open windows.

Close attention has again been given to the inspection of meat, slaughterhouses, and shops etc. where food is prepared. In connection with these premises registration has been carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. The twelve bakehouses in the area have been visited at intervals, and found to be in a satisfactory condition. None of them are underground.

STALLS AND VEHICLES.

As there is no market in the area no stalls of any description are ever erected within the district. Butchers' vans do not yet seem to have come into general use for meat delivery, though this class of transport hardly ever gave cause for complaint. Uncommon too is the butcher's bicycle, on which it was possible for food in transit to become exposed to gross contamination.

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

There are only three premises in the area at which ice cream is manufactured and sold. In two cases the ice cream is sold on the premises, and made and stored in modern hygienic cabinets. The third manufactures in a very small way, concentrating on week-end sales from pony and cart. His premises are unsuitable and are to be brought up to standard before next season. Samples from all three makers have been satisfactory.

SCHOOLS.

There are 7 schools in the district, all of which have been visited regularly. The general sanitary condition of the schools is satisfactory all sanitary conveniences being on the water carriage system and connected to the sewer.

Any defects reported to the Divisional Education Officer have been promptly attended to.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no public baths in the district, but there is one privately owned bath open to the public. It belongs to Messrs. John Foster and Sons, and is situated at the Victoria Hall, Queensbury. It is fitted with an up to date filtration and chlorinating plant, the chlorination being direct from chlorine gas in cylinders. It has been inspected at intervals and found satisfactory.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

There is only one dwelling of this type in the district. During the year plans were submitted for, and a start made on building a permanent brick bungalow to replace this structure. A train body appeared overnight in High Cross, said to be for the use of week-end dwelling. Plans were asked for, and disapproved by the Town Planning Committee. It is to be removed.

No byelaws have been made under section 268(4) of the Public Health Act, 1936, to govern this class of dwelling.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The work done during the year is set out in tabular form below.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS.

Total No. of Inspections made in 1946 for Nuisances only—79.

Nuisances found in 1946—63.

Nuisances in hand, end of 1945—10.

Total needing abatement—73.

Abated during 1946—69.

Outstanding end of 1946—4.

Notices served, Informal—160.

Complied with—154.

Notices served, Statutory—0.

Complied with—0.

Tents, Vans and Sheds, No. in District,—1; Total No. of Inspections made—2.

Offensive Trades, No. in District—3; No. on Register—3. Size Boiler. Tripe Boiler and Tannery.

BUILDING BYELAWS.

Visits to works in progress	...	...	106
Inspections of foundations	...	...	30
,, ,, site concrete	...	...	6
,, ,, damp proof course	...	...	15
,, ,, completed works	...	...	15
,, ,, new drains	...	...	14
,, ,, old drains	...	...	80
Smoke tests of new drains	...	...	18
Visits to sites to check plans	...	...	30
Visits to Town Planning Office re plans			12
Contraventions of byelaws remedied	...		2

CIVIL BUILDING LICENSES.

Visits re issue of Ministry of Works Licenses 154

COUNCIL HOUSES.

Housing Inspected for over-crowding	...	5
Housing Inspected for defects	...	62
Temporary buildings inspected	...	4

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Inspections of sewage tanks	...	...	5
,, ,, privies	...	...	56
,, ,, public conveniences	...	...	2
,, ,, water closets	...	...	21
,, ,, pail closets	...	...	4
,, ,, ash-bins	...	...	162
Water supplies sampled	...	...	6
Ice cream supplies sampled	...	...	3
Milk supplies sampled	...	...	36
Investigations of complaints	...	...	55
Investigations for rats	...	...	16
Infestations found	...	...	4
Visits to lay bait	...	...	16
Visits to lay poison	...	...	4
Investigations of cases of infectious disease			26
Houses disinfected	...	...	6
Foodshops inspected	...	...	4
Cowsheds and dairies inspected	...	...	24
Factories inspected	...	...	82
Investigations re pollution of watercourse			3
Bakehouses inspected	...	...	12
Miscellaneous visits and interviews	...		134

